



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TOHONO O'ODHAM MEMBER SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

TUCSON, Ariz. – Anthony J. Orosco, Jr., 25, a member of the Tohono O'Odham Nation, was sentenced here today to 87 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Cindy Jorgenson. Orosco pleaded guilty on February 4, 2005 to a charge of Aggravated Sexual Abuse after an investigation by the Tohono O'Odham Nation Police Department and the FBI in Tucson, Ariz.

On April 4, 2002, Tohono O'Odham Nation detectives responded to an apartment complex in Tucson, Ariz. regarding a sexual assault. The 29-year-old victim stated that the assault had occurred in San Xavier on the Tohono O'Odham Nation near the San Xavier Mission. During an interview conducted at Tucson Medical Center, she stated on the night of April 3, 2002, she, her boyfriend and other people drove to a bar on Old Nogales Highway in Tucson where she saw the defendant, whom she did not know, enter the bar. Later that night at a party at a friend's apartment, she saw the defendant arrive with two other individuals. During the party at about 2 a.m., the victim argued with her boyfriend and left the apartment. Realizing that her vehicle had a flat tire, she went back into the party and asked the defendant and his friends, who were leaving the party, for a ride home.

Orosco agreed, but first dropped off his two friends in the area of the San Xavier Reservation. The victim then sat in the front passenger seat and became concerned when Orosco drove to the San Xavier cemetery. Orosco parked the car and forcibly removed some of her clothing. She told Orosco that she needed to use the restroom so he allowed her to get out of the car. She attempted to run to a nearby house but Orosco pushed her down on the ground and sexually assaulted her. When the victim screamed, the defendant picked her up and threw her in the vehicle and drove her to another location where he assaulted her again. After the assault, the defendant allowed the victim to redress and drove her to her apartment. Orosco told her that if she told authorities what he had done, he would kill her and her boyfriend. The victim ran into her apartment and called the police.

Orosco has been in federal custody since his arrest in October 2003. The prosecution was handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-2045-TUC-JMR
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